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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/585,324	09/26/2006	John Joseph Dunkley	2490-31	9711
23117	7590	03/26/2010	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC			SAMALA, JAGADISHWAR RAO	
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ARLINGTON, VA 22203			1618	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/26/2010		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/585,324	Applicant(s) DUNKLEY ET AL.
	Examiner JAGADISHWAR R. SAMALA	Art Unit 1618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1448)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/06/2006; 12/05/2008; 12/29/2008 & 01/08/2009

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

- Claims 1-8 are pending in the instant application.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 07/06/2006, 12/05/2008, 12/29/2008 and 01/08/2009 were noted and the submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

The drawing filed on 07/06/2006 has been acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.

4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagura et al (JP 7211665, English version) in view of Aston et al (US 2004/0091421).

Applicant claims are drawn to a method for producing a composite material comprising phosphorus and silicon comprising various steps.

Nagura teaches a reaction product comprising silicon and phosphorus foam material. The red phosphorus vapor is made to react with high purity silicon powder at the vapor temperature of not less than 1150°C, and after cooling, it is grinded so as to produce small particles size of composite material, or causing the reaction of phosphorus vapor and silicone substrate to form a diffusion layer of silicon phosphide material. Additional disclosure includes that during the reaction process, a definite amount of phosphorus is taken and is surrounded with a layer of silicon particles, and is heated directly in such a manner to provide the establishment of a temperature difference between at least part of the silicon layer and the sample of phosphorus, and in such a manner that at least some of the phosphorous is vaporized and contact with at least part of the silicon to produce composite material comprising silicon and phosphorous (entire document).

Nagura fails to teach irradiating at least some of the composite material produced with neutron in such a manner that at least some of the phosphate is converted to ³²P.

Aston teaches a therapeutic product comprising silicon component and a radionuclide. The radionuclide may be combined with the silicon component, and/or it may be fabricated by the transmutation of silicon (0132). A fabrication of a ³²P

dosed porous silicon powder is formed by ball milling, sieving, and wet etching process. The powder is then rendered porous by stain etching in an HF based solution and subjected to thermal neutron bombardment in a nuclear reactor to bring about neutron transmutation doping of the silicon. The irradiation conditions are chosen to maximize ^{32}P production within the porous silicon (0133-0139).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate neutron transmutation doping of the silicon into the Nagura's composite material. The person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make those modifications because Aston teaches that phosphorus doping of silicon via neutron transmission doping of silicon is a well established means of producing phosphorous doped silicon at approximately 10^{15} cm^{-3} , and reasonably would have expected success because porous forms of silicon in the preparation of a ^{32}P dosed porous silicon powder as a therapeutic product for the treatment of cancer is advantageous because silicon may readily be processed by standard microfabrication techniques, to form articles such as staple, sutures, pins, plates, screws, barbs, and nails.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed at this time.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAGADISHWAR R. SAMALA whose telephone number is (571)272-9927. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30 A.M to 5.00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Hartley can be reached on (571)272-0616. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jake M. Vu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1618

Jagadishwar R Samala
Examiner
Art Unit 1618

sjr